

# MINUTES

OF THE

21

Twentieth Anniversary Meeting,

OF THE

King's Mountain Baptist Association,

Held with Bethel Church,

IREDELL COUNTY, N. C.,

Friday, September 22d, 1871,

AND DAYS FOLLOWING.

PRINTED AT WESTERN VINDICATOR OFFICE, RUTHERFORDTON, N. C.

1871.

## Abstract of Principles.

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1. We believe in one only true and living God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, three in one.
2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only true rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.
4. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and holiness.
5. We believe in the doctrine of *Election*, through sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of the truth.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the merits of Jesus Christ.
7. We believe the Saints shall persevere in grace, and not finally fall away.
8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers who have been immersed upon a profession of faith, are the only proper subjects for the Lord's table.
9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and general judgment.
10. We believe that the joys of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.
11. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as has been called of God, as was Aaron, and regularly baptized and approved of by the Church, and come under the imposition of hands by the Presbytery.



## MINUTES.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1872.

THE ASSOCIATION met, according to adjournment, with the Church at *Bethel*, Iredell County, N. C. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder G. M. WEBB, Text: 1st Thess., 5:6: "Let us not sleep, &c." Prayer by Elder T. DIXON. Intermission of thirty minutes for refreshments.

The ASSOCIATION was called to order by Elder J. K. HOWELL, Moderator, *pro tem.* A. A. McSWAIN and J. R. LOGAN were appointed Reading Clerks. The Church letters and the names of the delegates enrolled.

The Churches at Capernaum, Shelby, and New Prospect, having received letters of dismission from the Broad River Association, S. C., were at their own request, received as members of this body.

Elder T. DIXON was elected Moderator. Elder G. M. WEBB was re-elected Clerk.

The Minutes of the last session were adopted as the rules of business for the evening.

Correspondents from Sister Associations were welcomed as follows: *Broad River*, T. Dixon and J. L. Ledford; *Catawba River*, I. S. Bridges, E. Allison and G. J. Wilkie.

The following were welcomed as visiting Ministers: J. B. Marsh, G. W. Green, S. Head, and J. D. Huffham.

J. K. Howell, J. R. Logan, and J. C. Lattimore, with the Moderator and Clerk, were appointed a committee on order of business.

J. J. Hicks, D. D. Suttle, and A. Beam, with the Pastor and Deacons of the Church, were appointed a committee on religious exercises.

On motion adjourned to 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.  
Prayer by A. A. McSwain.

SATURDAY MORNING, SEP. 23d.

Prayer by J. K. Howell. The roll was called. The committee on order of business reported. The report was received and the committee discharged.

The constitution, rules of decorum and abstracts of principles were read. The 8th article of the abstract of principles was changed as follows:

"We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ; and that true believers who have been immersed upon a profession of faith are the only proper subjects for the Lord's table."

The 12th article of the abstract of principles was stricken out.

The following Committees were appointed: On finance, J. Setzer, J. J. Sigman and J. L. Ledford; on union meetings, M. D. Padgett, D. Poston and John Pruitt; on Sabbath-schools, A. A. McSwain, Thomas Kendrick and W. B. Stroud; on periodicals, J. K. Howell, D. D. Little and John Anthony; on missions, J. D. Huffham, J. R. Logan and J. C. Lattimore; on temperance, J. J. Hicks, J. M. Toms, and E. M. Sweezy; on obituaries, L. R. Rollins, W. D. Wiseman



and W. B. McCall; on state of religion, J. R. Logan, Lawson Har-  
rill and T. J. Dixon.

The report of the missionary board was read.

### Report of Missionary Boards.

Received from the churches and individuals	\$129.
Paid G. M. Webb, G. W. Rollins and J. K. Howell	\$96.
On hand	\$33.

E. J. LOVELACE, *Chairman.*

The report was adopted.

Messengers to sister Associations were appointed as follows:

Broad river, A. A. McSwain, G. M. Webb, Z. M. McKinney, J. C. Hoyle, W. D. Wiseman, L. R. Rollins and N. B. Cobb, A. A. McSwain to write the letter; Green river, N. B. Cobb, T. Dixon, G. M. Webb, W. Hill, G. W. Rollins, L. R. Rollins, J. M. Toms, M. D. Padgett and W. W. Green, G. M. Webb to write the letter; Catawba river, J. K. Howell and J. J. Hicks, J. K. Howell to write the letter.

The circular letter was called for. None has been sent up.

The Association adjourned to hear a sermon by Elder J. B. Marsh,  
Text: "I will hear what God the Lord will speak, &c.," Ps. 85: 8.  
Intermission forty-five minutes.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

A. A. McSwain was appointed to write Circular Letter for next year. Subject—Systematic beneficence.

J. K. Howell was appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon at next session.

J. D. Hufham was appointed to preach the Missionary Sermon at 11 o'clock A. M. on Sunday. G. M. Webb and T. Dixon were also elected to preach on same day.

The Report on Sabbath Schools was read.

### Report on Sabbath Schools.

We are happy to receive cheering reports from some of the churches. They are taking a deep interest in Sabbath Schools, and we believe great good has resulted from their efforts. Some of the churches have no Sabbath Schools. We therefore urge the importance of this great work, and recommend that every Church enter into it.

A. A. McSWAIN, *Chairman.*

The Report was adopted.

The committee on Union meetings recommended that the next meeting be held with the Church at Zion on Friday before the 5th Sunday in August. G. M. Webb, T. Dixon, J. K. Howell, A. A. McSwain, G. W. Rollins, and R. Poston were appointed to attend.

The Report on Periodicals was read.

### Report on Periodicals.

Your committee are of the opinion that the interests of our denomination in the State require a Baptist paper, and that the interests of the Sunday School cause require a Child's paper. These requirements are met in the BIBLICAL RECORDER, published in Raleigh, N. C., and by KIND WORDS, published in Memphis, Tenn.

J. K. HOWELL, *Chairman.*

Pending the motion to adopt the Report, thirty-five subscribers to the BIBLICAL RECORDER, were secured.



The report of the Committee on Missions was read.

### Report on Missions.

I. STATE MISSIONS.—There is much spiritual destitution within the limits of our own State. In some sections, the Gospel, as we understand it, is not preached. In some counties there are no Baptist preachers. In others there are but few Churches. It is our duty to supply this destitution as far as we can.

The Baptist State Convention has been endeavoring to do this work and the efforts have been blessed. During the present year they have had ten Missionaries in the field; they now have eight. Thro' the labors of these missionaries, many destitute places have had the gospel preached unto them; more than one hundred persons have been baptized, and one church has been organized. One new house of worship has been commenced and efforts are making to build four others at important points. Many places are asking for help, and the number of laborers could be doubled if the means to sustain them were on hand. The Executive Committee have done something within our Associational limits. For particulars you are referred to their report. We recommend that our Churches extend to the Convention a hearty and active co-operation in this Home Mission work.

II. FOREIGN MISSIONS.—Never before have Southern Baptists found so much to encourage them in their foreign missionary work. Their missions in China are enlarging; they now have in that great empire twelve Stations and out-stations, with thirty laborers; twelve of these are from this country, and eighteen are natives. Seven Churches have been formed in connection with which more than three hundred have been baptized. The African mission has been resumed with ten stations and twelve workers. Our European mission is wonderfully progressive. In less than a year we have put eight or ten evangelists and colporteurs at work in Italy. In Rome a Baptist church has been formed and forty-five have been baptized. A school has been opened for the improvement of native preachers. Thirty thousand copies of portions of God's Word have been distributed. On the banks of the Adriatic sea a church, heretofore holding the truth excepting in regard to the ordinances, has become Baptist and now has seventy-five members. Calls are made for Baptist workers in different parts of Italy. Surely there is ample encouragement for every one to press forward with fresh energy and hope in this great work.

Pending the motion to adopt the Report, Sixteen dollars and Seventy-five cents were handed in from the church at Shelby for State missions.

The Committee on Finance reported contributions to the amount of Thirty-nine dollars and forty-three cents (\$39 43.) for printing Minutes.

## SABBATH.

At 9 o'clock, A. M., a Sabbath School meeting was addressed by S. HEAD and J. D. HUFFAM. At 10 o'clock Elder G. M. WEBB preached at the stand. Subject—Unbelief. At 11 o'clock the Missionary sermon was preached according to appointment. Collection \$24 85, for State missions. Intermission of one hour. Elder T. DIXON then preached at the stand on the Nature and Power of Prayer, and closed the exercises of the day.



MONDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. D. HUFHAM. The Committee on Obituaries submitted their report.

### REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

We notice in the statistics of our Churches that eighteen members have died during the year. Among them is Brother SAMUEL HARRILL of Concord Church, who departed this life in his 99th year, having been a consistent member of the Church for more than fifty years, and having filled the office of Deacon a large part of that time. He went down to the grave much esteemed by all who knew him. While we lament the loss of these departed ones, we bless God that so many of us have been spared to meet in our annual gathering.

L. R. ROLLINS, *Chairman*.

The report of the Committee on temperance was read and adopted.

### Report on Temperance.

Temperance is one of the christian graces. It was inculcated by the Author of our being at an early period of the world's history in the garden of Eden. It was also taught by the inspired writers of the Scriptures. The great apostle to the Gentiles reasoned before the Roman Governor concerning temperance. By temperance we understand a moderate use of things which are conducive to health, and a total abstinence from everything hurtful to health, morality or religion. We should be temperate in all things. There are many things of a temporal nature from which christians would do well to abstain entirely. Among them we mention pride, vanity, idle gossip too often verging on obscenity and tending to corrupt good morals; and especially indulgence in the intoxicating bowl, thereby changing the image of God into that of brute beasts. We fear that some of our churches are already suffering from the prevalence of these things. If so we recommend the enforcement of Gospel discipline. Let offenders be admonished with tenderness and love; but should they persist in their evil courses let them be cut off. Then and not till then can the churches expect to enjoy peace and prosperity.

J. J. HICKS, *Chairman*.

The report on state of religion was read and adopted.

### Report on State of Religion.

A few of the churches seem to have enjoyed refreshing seasons of revival during the past year, having received one hundred and sixty members by baptism. For this we are truly thankful. But many of the churches complain of coldness and barrenness; others give meager reports of their condition, making no mention of prayer meetings or Sabbath-schools; and from a few we have no report either by letter or delegates. We fear, therefore, that our people are not making proper efforts to advance the Redeemer's kingdom on the earth, and we would, in love, exhort them not to sleep as do others, but to be watchful and sober. Our missionary enterprises, at home and abroad; the Sabbath-school cause and, indeed, all the appliances for the spread of the Gospel requires this. We fear that there is too much neglect of many of the christian duties. How is it in reference to family prayer, deeds of charity, visiting the sick and afflicted? Practical religion, we fear, is at a low ebb among many who ought to present better examples to the world. In looking abroad among the churches how often do we see pride, covetousness,



vain glory, intemperance, worldly mindedness, wrath, sedition, idle gossip and frivolities, all unworthy of the christian name and profession. Brethren, these things ought not to be. Fashion and folly should not be suffered to engross so much of our time, to the neglect of christian duty. We should rather endeavor to keep ourselves unspotted from the world. We would therefore suggest that every follower of Christ begin at once to examine his heart and see whether he be in the exercise of true, living faith, or whether he be guilty of the sins already hinted at. If guilty let him ask God for pardon. If we love God we should at least keep His commandments and walk in His ordinances blameless. Then may we expect to enjoy religion more and to have sweeter communion with Him. Let us humble ourselves under His mighty hand. Let us all aspire to a closer walk with Him.

J. R. LOGAN, *Chairman.*

The missionary Committee was re-appointed as follows: G. J. Lovelace, J. C. Lattimore and J. A. Roberts.

On motion it was agreed that the Association hereafter co-operate with the Baptist State Convention of N. C. in the work of missions.

Letters to sister Associations were read and approved. On motion it was agreed that the next session of the Association be held with the church at Bethlehem.

The following were adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Clerk be instructed to superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes, and that he receive ten dollars for his services.

*Resolved*, That the delegates be requested to present the subject of missions to their respective churches and endeavor to secure the adoption of some systematic plan of raising funds for said object.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this body are due and are hereby tendered to the members of this church and community for their hospitality during our present session.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet with the church at Bethlehem, Cleveland County, on Friday before the 4th Sabbath, in September, 1872. Prayer by E. Alison.

T. DIXON, *Moderator.*

G. M. WEBB, *Clerk.*



